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THE STOREFRONT CLASSROOM

A UTOPIAN NEWSPAPER

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★ Far Out West Comics
★ Where-to-Find-It-Directory
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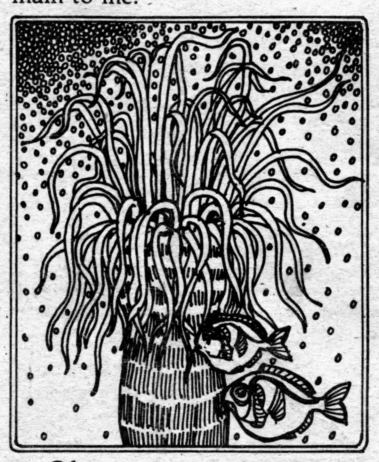
THE PLIGHT OF THE OCEANS

The following is a report from Captain Jacques Yves Cousteau:

Each month we now pour so many millions of tons of poisonous waste into the living sea that in perhaps twenty years, perhaps sooner, the oceans will have received their mortal wound and will start to die. I do not say this lightly. During the past thirty years my team and I have spent thousands of hours diving in aqualungs and other underwater devices. During that time I have observed and studied closely, and with my own two eyes I have seen the oceans sicken. Certain reefs that teemed with fish only ten years ago are now almost lifeless. The ocean bottom has been raped by trawlers. Priceless wetlands have been destroyed by land fill. And everywhere are sticky globs of oil, plastic refuse and unseen clouds of poisonous effluents.

Is all now lost? I do not believe it. But I passionately believe that the perceptive few who have the opportunity to see the ultimate disaster ahead must band together *now* to warn the slumbering many. (Is it not always thus?) Such corrective measures as exist must be put into effect immediately. Pioneering research and exploration to help us better understand the sea and its creatures must be undertaken without delay. To this new crusade I solemnly pledge what years remain to me.



Often, when I describe the symptoms of oceans' sickness, I hear remarks like "they're only fish" or "they're only whales" or "they're only birds." But I assure you that our destinies are linked with theirs in the most profound and fundamental manner. For if the oceans should die—by which I mean that all life in the sea would finally cease—this would signal the end not only for marine life, but for all other animals and plants of this earth, including woman/man. With life departed, the ocean would become, in effect, one enormous cesspool. Billions of decaying bodies, large and small, would create such an insupportable stench that woman/man would be forced to leave all the coastal regions. But far worse would follow—

The ocean acts as the earth's buffer. It maintains a fine balance between the many salts and gases which make life possible. But dead seas would have no buffering effect. The carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere would start on a steady and remorseless climb and when it reached a certain level, a "greenhouse effect" would be created. The heat that normally radiates outward from earth to space would be blocked by the carbon dioxide, and sea level temperatures would dramatically increase. One catastrophic effect of this heat would be melting of the icecaps at both the North and the South Poles. As a result, the oceans would rise by 100 feet or more, enough to flood almost all the world's major cities. These rising waters would drive one-third of the earth's billions inland, creating famine, fighting, chaos and disease on a scale almost impossible to imagine. Meanwhile, the surface of the ocean would have scummed over with a thick film of decayed matter, and would no longer be able to give water freely to the skies through evaporation. Rain would become a rarity, creating global drought and even more famine.

But the final act is yet to come. The wretched remnant of the human race would now be packed cheek by jowl on the remaining highlands, bewildered, starving, struggling to survive from hour to hour. Then would be visited upon them the final plague, anoxia (lack of oxygen). This would be caused by the extinction of plankton algae and the reduction of land vegetation, the two sources that supply the oxygen you are now breathing. And so woman/man would finally die, slowly gasping out her/his life on some barren hill. She/he would have survived the oceans by perhaps thirty years. And her/his heirs would be bacteria and few scavenger insects.

I beg you not to dismiss this brief scenario as science fiction. The ocean *can* die, these horrors *can* happen. And there will be no place to hide. Earth is the only planet we know of where life can exist. That is because it is the rarest of phenomena, a "water planet." The ocean *is* life. Do we humans cherish and guard it? Consider these deadly skirmishes

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POTLUCK VOLLEYBALL is the mantra of yet another budding political party in San Francisco, the STAR Party. STAR is an acronym for "Social Tolerance, Action, and Reform" and its members are convinced that politics can be fun. The chief concern of the STAR Party is saving the environment from ecological ruin, and the means to this end is one that involves legislation, reform, and cooperative activities that will improve the quality of life for all citizens while at the same time improving environmental practices. Examples of a few STAR Party schemes: One job slot for two people . . . passing a city proposition that would open up social service and government-funded jobs on a split shift basis; two people would be able to work five days each out of ten work days on the same job. Result: trimming down of unemployment and absenteeism, fostering of more moderate income standards (which would very likely reinforce an increase in cooperative living). Motto: Work half as much, live twice as well. Another proposal: Expand government-funded job programs in areas like city gardening, recycling, childcare, neighborhood art projects, creating subsistence-level job opportunities for the many people who would like to put their time into community improvement programs if only their living expenses were covered. The STAR Party wants a personal solution for everyone. It's organizational structure is socially oriented . . . that is, the people are coming together and unifying around events like fortnightly potluck volleyball games and small, informal workshops and discussion groups (SEE ABOVE PICTURES). The STAR Party is a party for liberated women, men and children. Right now it's in its infant stages, just getting off the ground, and so inquiries, ideas, energy and suggestions are welcome. The number to call is: 752-0773.

NUTRITION LABELING: *The Inside Story On Food*

Have you noticed anything new at your breakfast table lately? If you think you've been seeing less talking cows on the panels of milk cartons and more actual information about what's inside the carton, you're right. In fact, a transformation is occuring on the labels of all kinds of foods.

As of July 1, 1975 new food labeling regulations will be put into effect by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) culminating more than 10 years of study and effort to develop labeling patterns which would protect the consumer from deceptive marketing practices and educate her/him about the nutritive value of foods.

The most significant of the new labeling regulations to be put into effect by the FDA is something called nutrition labeling. This regulation requires any manufacturer who adds a nutrient to food or who makes a nutritional claim on a label or in advertising to provide on the label, in a standard format, a list of the nutrients and the quantities of those nutrients in the food.

What this new system means is that whenever a food makes a nutritional claim such as "high in vitamin C" it will be required that it also carry the following information: serving size, servings per container, calories per serving, carbohydrates per serving, fat per serving, and the percentage of the U.S. Recommended Daily Allowance (U.S. RDA) per serving for essential nutrients. Sodium and cholesterol are optional listings on the panel.

One of the most significant results of this new labeling is the establishment of the U.S. Recommended Daily Allowances. This represents the amount of nutrients needed every day (plus an excess of 30-50% as a margin for individual variations) by people *to maintain good health* and replaces the old misleading concept of Minimum Daily Requirement (MDR) which is basically a legal term and deals only with quantities needed *to avoid deficiency*.

Under the new U.S. RDA system, if a product contains less than 50% of the RDA, it is a food. If it contains 50-150% of the RDA, it must be labeled as a dietary supplement. If it exceeds 150% of the RDA it is an over-the-counter drug and must be labeled as such.

In line with this, new vitamin and mineral regulations went into effect in 1974 despite a mass

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Subscriptions to the Storefront Classroom can be obtained by becoming a member of the Utopian Society for $5.00 a year. Utopian Society membership will also bring you "Utopian Eyes", a new magazine. "Utopian Eyes" contains art, writing, and poetry of the Utopian movement and is published four times a year. The proceeds from Utopian Society memberships go towards the development of Aipotu, an educational child-care community in the country that will utilize wind and solar energy. Checks may be made payable to PASS inc. Memberships for persons outside of the U.S. are $7.50 a year (for surface mail) and $10.00 a year (for air mail).

FAR OUT WEST

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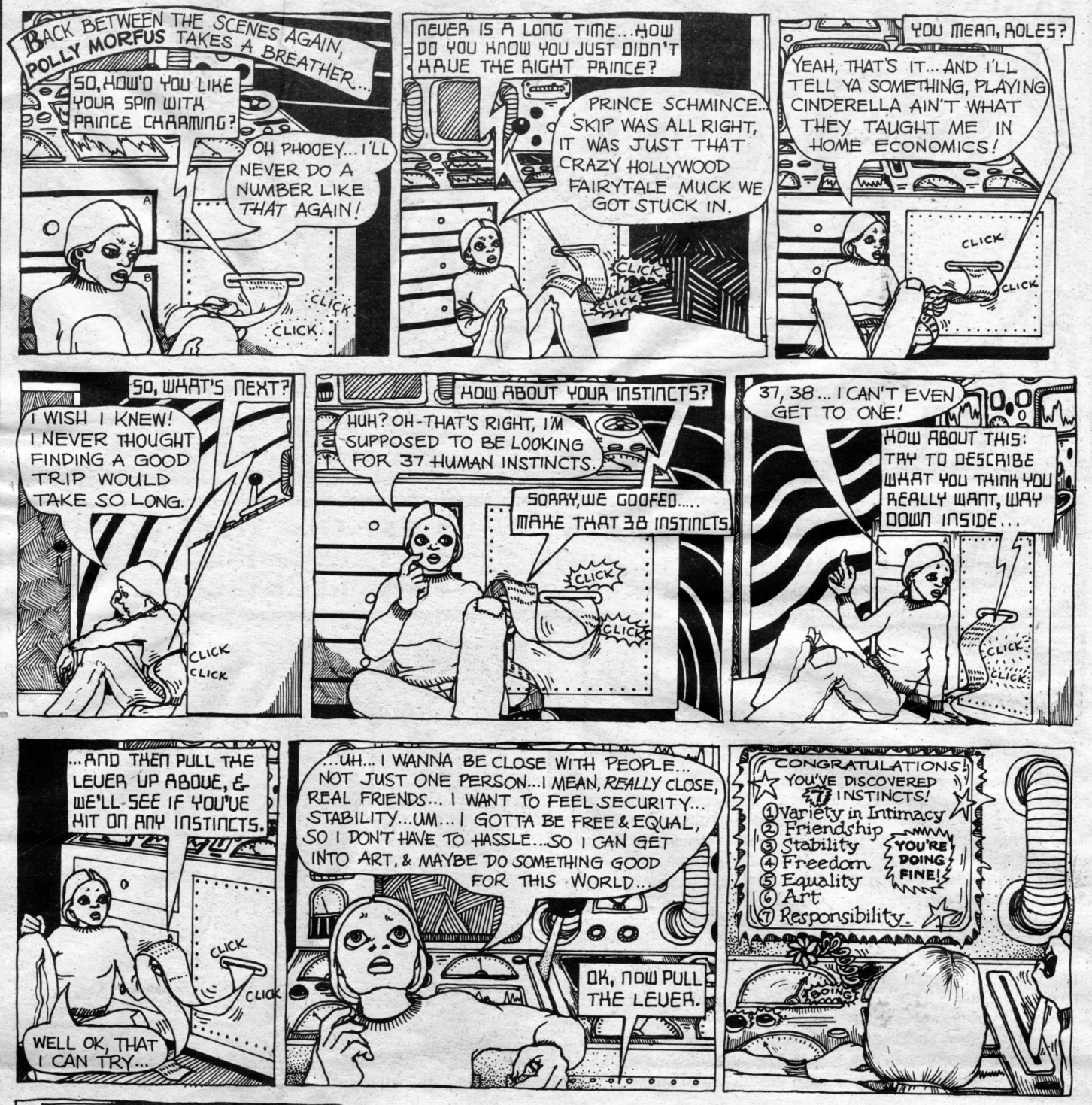

FOOD LABELING, continued

publicity campaign, law suits, and the introduction of legislation attempting to defeat them. A charge was made that the new regulations of vitamins and minerals would force the public to obtain vitamins by prescription and that health food dealers would be driven out of business. In actuality, however, as three court decisions upheld, the FDA's regulations only restricted high potencies of vitamins A and D to prescription (because high doses of these two vitamins can cause serious illness and even death) and did not ban from sale a single nutrient which was previously available. New labeling practices simply prohibit deceptive claims and unethical marketing practices (such as the false claim that natural vitamins are superior to synthetic ones). The slogan of the FDA's detractors was "Go to health, FDA!". It appears that the FDA is doing just that.

This new concept of nutrition labeling is an addition to an older labeling practice of listing *ingredients* in a food—in descending order of their quantity in a product. (This occurs on all labels except in the case of so called standardized foods such as mayonnaise, salad dressings, etc. which contain "standardized" ingredients which are not required to appear on the label). This enables the consumer to know if water, for instance, is the second ingredient on a label that the percentage of water in that product is very high. If, however, it is the last ingredient listed, the water content is low.

Labels of items like orange juice beverages and shrimp cocktail are now required also by law to list the *exact* amount of orange juice and shrimp which are present. Prior to this regulation consumers unknowingly bought "shrimp cocktail" in which the shrimp was best found by microscope.

New labeling regulations also deal with the concept of the word imitation as an "inaccurate term," uninformative to the public. The word imitation is now only used in referring to a product which is actually nutritionally inferior to the food it resembles. A product, however, which substitutes for an established one and is nutritionally equivalent need not be labeled imitation.

For example, mellorine and parevine are names of products which resemble ice cream. They are nutritionally equivalent to ice cream but are derived from vegetable fats and not milk. Under the new regulations therefore this product may be simply sold outright as "Mellorine" or "Parevine" without use of either the terms "ice cream" or "imitation" on the label at all. (I scream, you scream, we all scream for Parevine?)

The new regulations in their effort to protect the public from misinformation will also prohibit labels from claiming or even implying 1) that a food can prevent, cure, mitigate or treat any disease or symptom; 2) that a balanced diet of foods cannot supply adequate amounts of nutrients; 3) that a lack of optimal nutritive quality of a food, because of the soil on which that food was grown, may be responsible for a deficiency in the diet; 4) that storage, transportation, or cooking of a food is or may be responsible for a deficiency in the daily diet; or 5) that certain substances with no known need or significant value in the diet be called nutrients. This last is aimed at such substances as bioflavanoids which have in the past falsely been mixed in with vitamins on labels when their contribution to human nutrition has not been shown.

All of these regulations and others go into effect for all foods shipped interstate after July 1, 1975. (Many manufacturers have begun the system already.) The new labeling encourages manufacturers to compete on the open market with facts, not clever gimmicks. It allows the consumer to compare various brands of the same foods, and different products, for their nutritional value and it should aid consumers in evaluating new products as they appear on the market at an astounding rate.

A recent study by the FDA showed that shoppers in the West rate the highest in their knowledge of nutrition of any place in the U.S. So next time you're shopping take a look at the label on the tomato sauce can, the loaf of bread, or the carton of milk you're about to buy and you may even be increasing that knowledge. (Even a label *without* nutritional information will tell you something about a manufacturer.)

As a recent nutrition education campaign put it "Food is more than something to eat." In fact, healthy eating is what you might call a scientific pleasure. And nutritional labeling seems to promise to enhance both the science and the pleasure of it.

BY EVEN EVE · episode 8

PLIGHT OF THE OCEANS, Continued

in the enormous assault we have unwittingly mounted against the oceans—

The Poisoned Rivers

A researcher asked a marine biologist if he could supply a map showing which rivers pollute the ocean. The biologist had a simpler way. He said, 'Any river that flows through an urban, industrial area is loaded with pollutants.'

The Coming Abundance of DDT

Every chemical waste or effluent, whether in air, on land, or in water, will eventually end up in the seas. Of all the DDT compounds so far produced over 30% are already in the oceans. We know that eventually all will end up there! (Production of DDT has been stopped in the States. But as always, the producers of pollutants subsidize another research, a counter research, and then, if unsuccessful, a new untested pollutant.)

A New Look at "The Endless Bounty of The Sea"

Remember when the inexhaustible sea, so-called, was going to feed all the world's new billions? Four years ago I knew that the amount of life in the oceans was dwindling at a terrifying rate. Yet I predicted that the fishing tonnage would continue to rise for a few years because of better equipment methods—and I was wrong. The tonnage of fish started down in 1971 and has kept going down ever since, in spite of more fishing vessels and better equipment.

I could add thousands more to these examples, and fill a dozen volumes. But I hope these few will convey my distress and concern at what is happening to our oceans, our planet and ourselves.

Jacques-Yves Cousteau, captain of the Calypso and reknowned marine biologist, has recently formed The Cousteau Society, a non-profit, member-supported organization whose function will be to carry on research and educate the public and governments on ways to save the oceans. Information on the Society can be obtained by writing The Cousteau Society, Inc., Box 1716, Danbury, Conn. 06816.

RECYCLING CENTERS

For a complete listing of all of the recycling centers in San Francisco, their hours, and what they take, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Recycling Directory, care of The Storefront Classroom, Box 1174, S.F., Ca. 94101. It's a free service.

VOLUNTEER PHOTOGRAPHERS WANTED

The weakest part of this newspaper is its photography department. In fact, it doesn't really even have a photography department. PHOTOGRAPHERS! your talents are requested. Amateurs, professionals, or in-betweens, if you have any good pictures you'd like the people of San Francisco to see, we might be able to fulfill your wish. Subjects preferred are: ecology, recycling, San Francisco scenes, good health, cooperative enterprises, and utopian themes in general. If you want a price for your wares we might be able to work something out, though we can't promise much . . . this newspaper is pretty much an unsalaried production. Also we'd like some photographers to cover specific assignments to coincide with specific articles. Interested? Call the Storefront Classroom at 752-0773.

UTOPIAN PSYCHOLOGY

What is schizophrenia?

Schizophrenia is not an inherited disease. In schizophrenia mind and spirit and emotions are split because of serious shock and trauma. It starts very early in life when a child is brought into contact with non-supportive vibes. This non-support is not always even aimed at the child. It can be the incompatibility of parents or any number of other hostile or negative vibes. Mind and spirit and emotions become more split when a child learns language and then is confronted with a split between what is said and what is done on the part of other people. It is further developed by promises being broken and other people acting schizophrenic in the child's presence. Social forces such as organized religions also reinforce schizophrenic beliefs by introducing a false concept of reality. Among these false conceptions are the theory of good and evil; the theory of implicit superiority on the basis of age, sex, color, or creed; and the theory of romantic love. All of these imply a natural division between the intellect and the emotions or between equal people, or between spirit and mind. These factors all contribute to a severe disruption of a person's own personality system. A disruption of any degree causes an imbalance in the wave system that is the personality structure and if it is great enough it causes schizophrenia. It is not only mental institutions that house schizophrenics; it is offices, dwellings, monasteries, churches, and almost every place imaginable. The difference is that of intensity and is not really too different at the roots. A schizophrenic is a person who is divided internally and has lost touch with some part of reality.

CITY GARDENING

The Community Garden Project is a city program that makes available vacant lots (public or private) in San Francisco for gardens. It's a fine way to develop the arts of agriculture and horticulture for city folks who like the land but just don't have a chance to get off to the country. It's also a nice way to get involved with neighbors, and beautify the city all at the same time. Information, seeds, compost, and limited tools are provided. Contact Sue Reed of the Free Planting Division, Dept. of Public Works, 558-3377.

THE STOREFRONT CLASSROOM•4

WORLD CITIZENSHIP NEWS

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF BEES

The current population of bee colonies on earth is undergoing a steady and continuing decline. That innocent sounding fact takes on a new light, however, when coupled with the results of such a decline.

Due to the shortage of bees caused by increased urbanization (paving of fields normally used for pollen and nectar) and to the killing impact (directly or indirectly) of pesticides, there is an imminent threat now to world food supplies. A shortage of bees may have disastrous effects on world food production.

Lack of bees, which normally pollinate crops throughout the world, has caused such catastrophies as a 41% decline in West Germany's apple crop in 1974, the failure of a large Burmese sunflower plantation to produce seeds for a second year in a row, and a decline in Tunisian honey production which caused honey prices to double there.

Apimondia, a world bee-culture organization in Bucharest, reports that the world bee population is currently 50 million colonies. "We should have 200 million," they note, to provide adequate food in our expanding world.

The solutions to this problem suggested by bee-culturists throughout the world are a proposed curb on pesticides, a "world honey bank," increased "rental" of bee hives by local farmers, and the continued cultivation of hardier strains of bees—which is now underway.

GOOD NEWS: FOOD PRODUCTION

—Former Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman reports visiting land in Zambia "about as large as Texas" which may be ripe for cultivation. He also notes that the Ganges Delta in India could be as fertile and is as large as the Midwest cornbelt of the United States.

—Purdue University scientists have succeeded in developing a new protein-rich sorghum which offers a higher yield than ever before and which can be grown easily in temperate climates. Sorghum is the 4th largest cereal grain grown in the world and is the major staple in the diet of one tenth of the world's population.

—A new strain of corn, discovered in 1963, which is as protein-rich as skimmed milk is now undergoing its final international field studies before being released to government agencies and ultimately to individual farmers throughout the world.

Regular corn contains a large amount of indigestible zein, a substance which locks up the amino acids lysine and tryptophan found in corn. The new strain of corn, a mutant, contains less zein and more lysine and tryptophan and was found to be capable of reserving protein starvation in ill children. This new strain is sturdier, more resistant to pests and diseases, and can be grown under a wide variety of climatic conditions. In fact, in 1972 the world's first balanced protein corn was harvested in the tropics.

Corn is the third major staple grain in the world, following rice and wheat, and this new discovery means vital protein for tens of millions of Latin Americans, Asians, and Africans.

GOOD NEWS: ECONOMICS

—Americans currently spend only 18% of their consumer dollars on food, as opposed to 30% spent in Great Britain, 40% behind the Iron Curtain, and 60% in underdeveloped countries.

—The U.S. has the second lowest per capita tax rate among the 13 leading industrial nations in the world. Americans pay out 28% of their income in taxes while four of the leading industrial countries pay over 40% per capita in taxes.

GOOD NEWS: THE ENVIRONMENT

—Lake Erie, despite earlier predictions to the contrary, is apparently still alive and well and yielding an annual fish catch of 30-50 million pounds.

—The Environmental Protection Agency has just completed a study of the air over 50 U.S. cities. The study showed that concentrations of center city particulate matter is down by 20% and that sulfur dioxide concentrations have decreased by nearly 50%.

—In Sweden, despite the fact of a standard of living comparable to the U.S., the per capita energy use is about one half that of the average American. Energy use can apparently be reduced effectively without a necessary reduction in standard of living.

GOOD NEWS: WOMEN

In the past three years the enrollment of women in medical schools has doubled—from 3,894 to 7,824.

The number of women elected to public office is on the increase. Women in state legislatures rose in number by 19% in 1972 and 26% in 1974. For the first time in U.S. history a woman was elected chief justice of a state supreme court, secretary of state (California), and lieutenant-governor (New York). For the first time also a woman has been elected governor of a state on her own merit (Connecticut).

FOOD DAY

A nationwide Food Day is being organized for April 17, 1975. Sponsored by the Center for Science in the Public Interest, it will be modeled after the successful "Earth Day" launched by environmentalists in 1970.

The purpose of Food Day, according to its organizers, will be to attempt to unite nutrition activists, consumer advocates, and all people concerned about the world hunger situation. Participants in Food Day will be holding teach-ins on school campuses; staging plant-ins of urban gardens; creating food co-ops and farmers' markets; discouraging consumption of non-nutritious resource-depleting junk foods; and encouraging responsible government food policies. The day is termed "a national day for action on the food crisis."

Of interest to San Franciscans in light of this proposed day of concern about food is the fact that on Earth Day 1970 an organization called Richmon Environment Action was born in our city. Four years later the organization has one of the most comprehensive and effective recycling centers in the city.

May Food Day generate as much long term, positive energy.

SUPERSHIPS

What weighs more than 400,000 tons, is longer than a quarter of a mile, carries thousands of tons of crude oil, and is the most dangerous sailing vessel to ever threaten the world's marine life? The supertanker or U.L.C.C. (ultra-large crude carrier), the biggest moving thing ever built by human beings. There are now 400 of these mammoth oil tankers in operation. They're badly built, hard to handle, crucially overloaded, poorly regulated and sloppily navigated. And they're going to get still larger. The one-million-ton U.L.C.C. is on the way. Why? Because they're fantastic money-makers. For example, Aristotle Onassis reportedly earned $4 million profit from a single voyage of one such ship.

Their hazards are appalling. When loaded, 80 percent of the supertanker is below the waterline. Many supertankers have only one bottom with nothing separating their oil from the ocean but a single steel skin and tests indicate that oil residues can corrode this skin halfway through within a single decade. Because they're so difficult to navigate, they sink, flounder, run aground and collide with other ships at a frightening rate. Once a supertanker sinks, it leaks oil for generations to come. Since there are very few ports in the world which harbor these ships, when something goes wrong and they're in need of repair there is often nothing the captain can do but pump gouts of oil into the sea to stay afloat. Crews also throw oil sludge out at sea after unloading. Scientists estimate that between 1.4 million tons and ten million tons of oil are dumped into the sea each year. Other tankers have been destroyed at sea by explosions caused by gas left behind in empty tanks, the cleaning of which there is no sure technique.

Europe, Japan and the U.S., a fifth of the world's population, consume three quarters of its oil. An average tanker returns its investment within only ten years. This is the key to why they're built so hastily with little concern for safety or durability. Having paid for themselves these ships are sold at a profit to companies which fly under a particular "flag of convenience" (the flag of a country, such as Liberia, which disregards the long-accepted rules of the sea). The wealthy tanker barons go on with their lives, while ill-trained crews of obscure nationalities pilot wheezing, rusting supertankers around the globe. These flag of convenience ships account for the bulk of supertanker accidents.

What can be done about this? One solution would be the creation of an international court with the power to regulate and enforce maritime codes and standards for guaranteeing safety on the ships and preventing pollution of the seas. Such an institution in nowhere in sight.

"Of the other (than nuclear power) contributors on the early time scale—solar, geothermal, wind—the most help probably will come from some specialized uses of solar energy, although the others will give some aid. More than half of the United States has a sufficient supply of sunshine to allow the widespread use of solar energy in the heating and cooling of homes and other buildings. This technology can be developed rapidly; its implementation depends chiefly on the inception of a national energy policy that encourages or demands the necessary construction, renovation, and design changes."

—Glenn Seaborg, Nobel Prize winner and former chairperson of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission

An Open Letter to Our Readers

In recent months, the news media have been running more and more stories and reports about the state of affairs in world ecology, the food crisis, population explosion, and other related problem areas. Without wishing to be critical of the news coverage of the major national publications, television or radio networks, we do have one comment to make: it's about time.

As a matter of fact, we hope it isn't too late. While it may take years before a tangible, material pinch . . . such as the gas lines of 1974 . . . brings into the public eye the reality that our planet is small, finite, and delicately balanced, the problems themselves do not wait until everyone knows they exist to build up momentum. They continue to gather ominous strength in spite of human awareness, or lack of it. The oceans, the protective ozone layer of our atmosphere, the growing capacity of the soil, the air, the bees . . . all these things are dangerously imperiled by humankind's present course of action. Population continues to swell, uncontrolled, like some great consuming beast. The survival of this planet's life-support system is being pushed to its very limits. The irony of the situation is that we may not even know it when one day this year, next year, ten, twenty, thirty years from now, we will wake up in the morning, and the point of no return will have just been passed. No trumpets will blare forth the coming of the end; no newspaper headlines will announce this definitive fact. Yet, it will be a fact. At some point, unless humans undertake radical changes in their lifestyles everywhere, we will run into the ecological deadline, and be too late. The balance of the planet will have been irreparably damaged, and we will just have to gradually adjust to the horrors that will follow.

Along with their recent reports on the problems, magazines such as Newsweek have been offering outlines of ways of coping with the situation. Basically, the solutions proposed (and these solutions are usually drawn from such sources as the United Nations conferences on food, population, energy, etc., and from various study groups, private or government-sponsored) deal with the "hardware" aspects of the problems. That is, they propose various programs to better apply technology to growing food, more intensive efforts to implement population control, programs to somehow make more of what material wealth and potential we have in this world. The only point made that involves "software" (that is, human factors, attitudes, and such like) is a vague, nebulous thing usually called "international cooperation."

The Storefront Classroom would like to put forth this view: Yes, the hardware sorts of solutions are crucial. Without more intelligent application of technology we haven't got a chance. But, even with improved technology, we could still miss the deadline. What counts first and foremost is the software, and "international cooperation" is, at this stage in history, just so much more verbiage. What will have to change is very fundamental stuff, and very close to home. In fact, that's exactly where it has to start: in the home. Consider this: the developing, over-populated nations of the world are for the most part resisting population control for two main reasons: one, the people themselves are, to a great extent, still embedded in cultural value systems that exalt fertility and motherhood, and negate the kind of female liberation that comes from family planning. Two, the governments and educated people of these lands are pointing an accusatory finger at the west, the U.S. in particular, and saying, "the population explosion is a myth . . . stop over-consuming the resources that rightfully belong to the rest of the people of this world, and there will be enough for everyone." Both of these reasons have resolutions that are essentially software.

The value system of uneducated peoples in regard to children, will only change if, as, and when these people are presented with a real, practical, new way of life that not only includes family planning, but also other things . . . like, better living conditions, education for their youth, more freedom, more leisure. U.S. over-consumption also deals with values. Americans also will only change their lifestyles if they are offered a new way of life that has more benefits in addition to less consumption . . like, more leisure, more freedom, less isolation, more laughs, more happiness. It looks like what people want everywhere is fundamentally the same. The catch is that the U.S. must make the first move. Right or wrong, the rest of the world still emulates the trends of living that originate in this nation, and so it stands to reason that if the U.S. could cut out a lot of its excesses, it might set a trend for people elsewhere, as well as being a necessary move in the prevention of over-polluting and depleting the world's resources. It would also say to the rest of the world: "Look, we can change, we can stop our exploitation. Now, can you change? Can you see that you still have to reduce your population growth?"

A lot is involved here. How can this nation be swayed into rational moderation and cooperative living? We hope this can happen when models are buit that can demonstrate the feasibility, fun, efficiency and desirability of cooperative living. At this dramatic moment in history, this crossroads, we want to encourage cooperative living as much as we can. We want to say that instead of zoning residential areas so that no more than two unrelated adults can live in the same house (as has been done in various places, including, last election, Piedmont, California), citizens should be studying the kibbutzim of Israel, utopian experiments of old, and communal experiments going on today, to find out how they can work out cooperative living arrangements that will hold together successfully. This doesn't mean self-sacrifice, asceticism, loss of privacy, or loss of individualism. It doesn't even mean loss of free enterprise. All it means is that we are willing to open up to sharing, to recycling, to responsible and mature concern for the world we live in, and the world we will leave to future generations. It means giving up the concept that someone else . . . "George", the government, the scientists, will solve our problems for us. It's got to be a people's movement. It might as well begin with us. We just might find, after we get up the courage to get our feet wet, that the water's fine . . . that cooperative living is something we should have thought of a long time ago.

—THE STOREFRONT CLASSROOM COOPERATIVE

Readers are urged to submit their thoughts on the subject of "SOLUTIONS" to global and local problems.

THE WHERE-TO-FIND-IT DIRECTORY

The Storefront Classroom is published every other month. Copies may be obtained in any of the places listed in this directory. If you'd like to take a listing, phone 752-0773, or mail in the coupon at the bottom of page eight.

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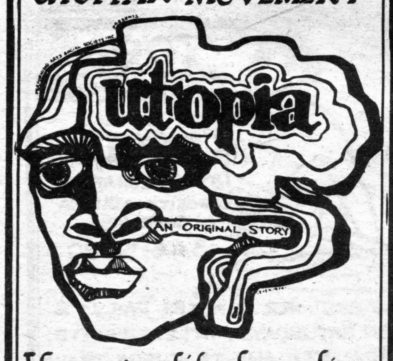

If you've liked reading "The Storefront Classroom", be sure not to miss "Utopian Eyes"!!!

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